Test Item File, Methods, 4/e, Jackson/Verberg

Chapter 2. Explaining

MC 2-1

The function of **theory** is to:

a. explain behaviour of humans and institutionsb. explain patterns in the social worldc. offer testable explanations for observed relationshipsd. all of the above

Answer: D Difficulty: Easy Page: 26

MC 2-2

Validity refers to the extent which:

a. on repeated measures, an indicator will yield similar readings

b. a particular measure reflects the concept being studied

c. a study being conducted is valuable to society

d. a study being conducted is valuable to the scientific community

Answer: B Difficulty: Easy Page: 28

MC 2-3

Reliability refers to the extent to which:

a. on repeated measures, an indicator will yield similar readings

b. a particular measure reflects the concept being studied

c. a study being conducted is able to produce the same results as previous studies of a similar character

d. none of the above

Answer: A Difficulty: Easy Page: 28

MC 2-4

Deductively speaking, if A causes B, and if B causes C, then which of the following must be true:

a. A causes Cb. A does not cause Cc. only B causes Cd. none of the abovee. all of the above

Answer: A Difficulty: Easy Page: 28

MC 2-5

Deductive reasoning begins at the:

a. conceptual stageb. theoretical stagec. operational staged. b and c but not a

Answer: B Difficulty: Moderate Page: 28

MC 2-6

Which of the following is not a component of **formal theory**:

a. conceptual schemeb. set of propositionsc. set of statistical figuresd. contingency of stated propositions

Answer: C Difficulty: Easy Page: 30 MC 2-7

The **power** of a theory refers to:

a. the number of scientists who subscribe to itb. the number of propositions that can be derived from itc. the number of times it is referenced in articlesd. the value of it to that of society

Answer: B Difficulty: Moderate Page: 30

MC 2-8

Partial theory attempts to explain:

a. an assumed or known relationship by proposing a testable causal model b. a new model within social science by means of a causal model

c. a model borrowed from the physical sciences

d. patterned behaviour

Answer: A Difficulty: Easy Page: 31

MC 2-9

An **axiomatic** derivation is a:

a. set of logically derived statements of relationshipsb. set of truisms derived from the social worldc. set of partially true statements about the social worldd. synonym for a hypothesis

Answer: A Difficulty: Easy Page: 35

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MC 2-10

Replacement of terms refers to:

a. replacing specific components of a theory with general onesb. replacing general components of a theory with specific onesc. replacing theories with hypothesesd. none of the above

Answer: B Difficulty: Moderate Page: 38

ES 2-1

Briefly define or describe what is meant by each of the following:

- a) alternative explanation
- b) partial theory
- c) formal theory
- d) axiomatic derivation
- e) anecdotal evidence
- f) causal explanation
- g) empathetic explanation
- h) functional explanation
- i) probabilistic explanation
- j) replacement of terms

Answer: ESSAY

ES 2-2

Contrast "formal theory" with "partial theory;" how would you go about testing a hypothesis related to each type of theory?

Answer: ESSAY

ES 2-3

Choose a relationship that you think would hold true and propose three alternative explanations for the relationship. Connect your proposed explanations to an existing social science perspective. Outline a study which would allow you to reject the various explanations?

Answer: ESSAY